



**VALLEY REGIONAL FIRE AUTHORITY  
GOVERNANCE BOARD MEETING  
1101 D Street NE  
AUBURN, WASHINGTON  
February 12, 2019**

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**MINUTES**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Leanne Guier called the Valley Regional Fire Authority (VRFA) Board of Governance Regular Board Meeting to order at 5:45 p.m., at the VRFA Headquarters, located at 1101 D Street NE, Auburn, Washington.

**A. Flag Salute**

Chair Guier led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**B. Roll Call**

Members present included: Chair Leanne Guier, Vice-Chair Dave Hill, Member Nancy Backus, Member Claude DaCorsi, Member Kerry Garberding, Member Troy Linnell, Member Lynda Osborn, Member Bill Pelozo and Member Pro-Tem Katie Garberding.

Member David Storaasli excused.

Staff members present included: Deputy Chief Kevin Olson, Acting Deputy Chief Dave Larberg, Chief Financial Officer Mark Horaski, Clerk of the Board Louise Bartol and Legal Counsel Eric Quinn.

**A. Announcements, Proclamations, and Presentations**

There were no announcements, proclamations and presentations.

**D. Appointments**

There were no appointments.

**E. Agenda Modifications**

There were no agenda modifications.

**II. PUBLIC HEARINGS, CITIZEN INPUT, AND CORRESPONDENCE**

**A. Public Hearings**

There were no public hearings.

**B. Audience Participation**

*This is the place on the Agenda where the public is invited to speak to the Governance Board on any issue. Those wishing to speak are reminded to sign in on the form provided.*

Vic Kave, City of Pacific Council Member addressed the Board of Governance regarding a letter he received from former Chair Nancy Backus pertaining to questions he brought forward at the December 8, 2018 Board of Governance meeting.

Chair Guier stated that she is available to meet with Mr. Kave as she has personally met with people to investigate his concerns and she can share her findings.

**C. Update from IAFF Local #1352**

Norm Golden, IAFF Local #1352 Secretary/Treasurer provided the following update:

- Jesse Mitchell is the Political Liaison for the Local and encourages candidates to meet with him.
- VRFA Annual Awards Reception will be held March 1<sup>st</sup> and is looking forward to working with the VRFA Administration to getting larger attendance at the event.

**D. Correspondence**

There was no correspondence.

**III. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS****A. Finance Committee**

Chair Osborn stated that the Finance Committee met this evening and recommends Claims and Payroll for approval by the Board. In addition they recommend approval of the FBC Appeals as presented and the ILA with South King Fire & Rescue.

**IV. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS**

*At this time the Chair and Board Members may report on significant activities since the last regular meeting, inquire on matters of general fire authority business, or initiate investigation or action on a matter of concern.*

Member Backus expressed her appreciation for the responses by the VRFA during this last weather event. Vice-Chair Hill expressed his appreciation for the outstanding work that is done on an ongoing basis.

Chair Guier enjoyed seeing the Facebook post of a ride-a-long with a firefighter and has received favorable comments from folks.

**V. STAFF REPORTS****A. Administration**

Deputy Chief Olson provided the following update:

- The VRFA responded to 183 calls within the past 96 hours which is not extremely busy; just a bit above average.
- Email invite has gone out for the March 1<sup>st</sup> VRFA Annual Awards Reception to be held at the Auburn Community Events center. Please rsvp by February 26<sup>th</sup> to Louise.
- Our four newest recruits started the academy on February 6<sup>th</sup> and they are all doing well.
- The final phase of the Deputy Chief interviews will be taking place on Wednesday at Station 31. Six Battalion Chiefs are being interviewed for the open Deputy Chief position.
- Expressed appreciation to the Board of Governance for their support of our programs. DC Olson had circulated a card which was received by a citizen in Chico California thanking the Washington State Task Force for our participation in the Camp Fire this past year. We appreciate being able to help in the wildfires.

**VI. CONSENT ITEMS**

*All matters listed on the Consent Agenda are considered by the Governance Board to be routine and may be approved by one motion.*

**A. Minutes**

1. Minutes of the January 8, 2019 Regular Meeting were reviewed.

**B. Vouchers****1. Claims**

Check numbers 207507 through 207582 in the amount of \$335,781.79, and electronic payments in the amount of \$9,501.56, totaling \$345,283.35, dated February 13, 2019 were reviewed.

**2. Payroll**

Payroll check numbers 200973 through 200993 and 99572 through 99575 in the amount of \$52,412.02, and electronic deposit transmissions in the amount of \$2,129,015.86 for a grand total of \$2,181,427.88 for the period covering January 1, 2019 to January 31, 2019 were reviewed.

There being no questions or discussion, Vice-Chair Hill moved and Member Backus seconded the approval of the Minutes, Claims and Payroll as presented above.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 9-0**

**VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

There was no unfinished business.

**VIII. NEW BUSINESS**

There was no new business.

**IX. RESOLUTIONS & MOTIONS****A. 2019 Fire Benefit Charge Appeals and Adjustments**

CFO Horaski stated that the FBC Appeals Hearing was held on Thursday, January 31, 2019 and the Hearing Board reviewed the six appeals as shown in the handout which shows the FBC Appeals Committee's findings and recommendation. The FBC Appeals Committee is asking that the Board of Governance approve their finding and recommendations.

There being no further questions or discussion, Vice-Chair Hill moved and Member Backus seconded the approval of the FBC Appeals Committee recommendations.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 9-0****B. South King Fire & Rescue Interlocal Agreement**

DC Olson stated that this Agreement is with South King Fire & Rescue for services of the Auburn West Hill Annexation area. Costs were skyrocketing in the past few years with increased property valuation. A re-negotiation of the contract has roughly saved the VRFA \$600,000 this year and has put a cap on future increases by using CPI at 3%. This Agreement is for a 3 year term.

There being no further questions or discussion, Member Backus moved and Vice-Chair Hill seconded the approval the South King Fire & Rescue Interlocal Agreement.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 9-0****X. INFORMATION/DISCUSSION****A. Emergency Management Update**

Sarah Yancey, Emergency Management Coordinator provided an overview of a handout provided to the Board of Governance outlining the actions taken place during the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2018 and plans to take place in 2019.

**XI. EXECUTIVE OR CLOSED SESSION**


There was no need for an executive or closed session.

**XII. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business by the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

Dated this 12<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2019.

  
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Leanne Guier  
Chair

  
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Louise Bartol  
Clerk of the Board